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In the Claims:

1. (original) A process comprising the steps of

mixing particles of a metal powder with a lubricant having a characteristic of becoming liquid under pressure and of evaporating under a sintering temperature and at least one liquid phase former to form a mixture;

compressing the mixture at a pressure sufficient to liquefy and uniformly distribute the lubricant within the compressed mixture with said lubricant effecting a uniform distribution of said liquid phase former on said particles of metal powder; and

sintering the compressed mixture at a sintering temperature sufficient to evaporate and drive off said lubricant and to effect a liquid phase sintering of said liquid phase former with said particles of metal powder to obtain a compressed and sintered product having a density of 99+% of theoretical density.

- 2. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said metal powder is a ferrous metal powder.
- 3. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said lubricant is one of APEX PS1000b, lauric acid and Johnson's Floor Wax.
- 4. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein sald liquid phase former is at least one of synthetic graphite, nickel, boron, phosphorous and compounds of boron and phosphorous.
- 5. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said mixture is compressed under a compaction pressure of 35 to 70 tons per square inch.
- 6. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said mixture is compressed through high velocity compaction.

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- 7. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said mixture is compressed under a compaction pressure greater than 45 tons per square inch.
- 8. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said compressed mixture is sintered at a temperature in the range of from 2070 to 2500° with the preferred range being 2300 to 2500 F.
- 9. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said compressed mixture is sintered at a temperature in the range of from 2300 to 2500° for a time of from 10 to 60 minutes.
- 10. (original) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of compressing includes placement of the mixture in a tool whereby during compressing of the mixture into a green compact the liquefied lubricant forms a liquid film between the tool and the mixture to cause a green compact with a uniform density gradient to be obtained.
- 11. (original) A product made in accordance with the process of claim 1.
- 12. (original) A powder metal product having a density of 99+% of theoretical.
- 13. (original) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 12 having a uniform density gradient throughout the product.
- 14. (original) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 12 characterized in being formed of at least one of iron and low alloy steel finer than 100 mesh and a liquid phase former having a characteristic of forming a liquid phase during sintening and of becoming part of the final product after sintering.
- 15. (currently amended) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 14 characterized in that said liquid phase former is includes at least one of nickel, phosphorous, boron, a compound of boron and a compound of phosphorous and is finer than 20 microns.

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- 16. (currently amended) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 14 characterized in that said liquid phase former is <u>includes at least</u> one of nickel, phosphorous, boron, a compound of boron and a compound of phosphorous and is finer than 10 microns.
- 17. (original) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 14 characterized in that said liquid phase former is synthetic graphite and is finer than 10 microns.
- 18. (original) A powder metal product as set forth in claim 14 characterized in that said liquid phase former is synthetic graphite and is finer than 2 microns.
- 19. (new) A powder mixture comprising

solid particles of at least one of a pure metal, an alloy and a co-diffused material; a lubricant; and

at least one liquid phase former including synthetic graphite.

- 20. (new) A powder mixture as set forth in claim 19 wherein said solid particles are a ferrous metal powder.
- 21. (new) A powder mixture as set forth in claim 20 wherein said ferrous metal powder is at least one of iron and low alloy steel finer than 100 mesh.
- 22. (new) A powder mixture as set forth in claim 20 wherein said lubricant is one of APEX PS1000b, lauric acid and Johnson's Floor Wax.
- 23. (new) A powder mixture as set forth in claim 20 wherein said liquid phase former further includes at least one of nickel, boron, phosphorous and compounds of boron and phosphorous.
- 24. (new) A powder mixture as set forth in claim 19 wherein said synthetic graphite is finer than 10 microns.